

Preliminary Amdt. dated December 15, 2003  
Docket No. 2542-00046

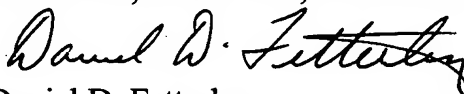
**Remarks/Arguments**

For the convenience of the USPTO, a separate copy of the Abstract is attached to this Preliminary Amendment for administration purposes.

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP

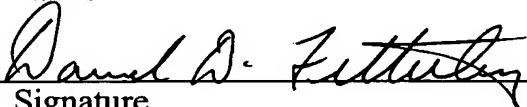


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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL**

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